

GENERAL

1. UK stand on extending Jordan treaty--According to US Embassy London, the British are informing the Jordan Government confidentially that they firmly intend to apply the UK-Jordan Mutual Defense Treaty to any areas (including a corridor to the Mediterranean) which might be incorporated into Jordan as a result of peace negotiations with Israel. The UK is informing the Israeli Government that: (a) the question of extending the treaty is a matter which concerns only the UK and Jordan; and (b) the UK has no intention of establishing, in peace time, military bases in any territory which Jordan might acquire.

(CIA Comment: The decision of the UK to extend the defense treaty to any parts of Palestine which Jordan might acquire will make the Israelis less willing to reach a settlement with Jordan in the present peace talks.)

2. Simultaneous UK recognition of China and Indochina asked--US Ambassador Bruce in Paris reports that French Foreign Minister Schuman has requested UK Foreign Secretary Bevin to postpone British recognition of the Chinese Communist Government (planned for 2 January 1950) until the Bao Dai Government in Indochina can be recognized simultaneously by the UK. In his message to Bevin, Schuman points out that Bao Dai's powers will be increased before 1 January and that debate by the National Assembly on the Indochina bill should begin about 12 January. The French Foreign Minister calls attention to the new element introduced by Mao Tse-tung's visit to Moscow and emphasizes his great apprehension that this "proclamation" of Sino-Soviet solidarity would have the effect, if immediately followed by British recognition of Mao's regime before de facto recognition of Bao Dai, of "severely weakening the spirit of resistance" to Communism throughout Southeast Asia.

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